364 the cleanliness of the households or the streets, nor about the purity of the water flowing through the streets. All refuse is thrown out into the [164] street or into the aryk. As a result both the air and the water are infected and transmit, one must suppose, those epidemic diseases which exist among the natives of Turkestan (leprosy, Sart disease (a skin disease), dracontiasis, 727 goiter). In general /391/ our military administration in Turkestan has never billeted army detachments in the native towns and villages, first, because of the poor construction of the [609] houses, and secondly because of the aloofness of the population, who have not yet mixed at all with the conquerors, and who, according to their religious law, almost never permit strangers to enter their dwellings.

727 The Russians, in cases of necessity,
712 occupy only such native dwellings as those which are confiscated and can be made suitable for European habitation. In most cases they have occupied the homes of former rulers or begs who have fled, and whose property consequently has been turned over to the treasury.

712 These dwellings have been adapted either as barracks or as military hospitals. The adaptation has consisted of putting in large windows, installing ventilation, and so on. The Russians who occupied Tashkent built barracks for the army in the native manner, i.e., with the framework type of construction. But they soon discarded this system and began to build both the military buildings and the living quarters of unfired clay, laid in a regular manner.

[Vernyy]

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132 of the Alatau peaks, which are always covered with snow.

[164] The sudden change of temperature during the day causes intermittent fevers, which also constitutes the main sickness in Vernyy. Diarrhea is added to this in the summer, resulting from eating too much ripe and moderately unripe fruit.

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364 /419/ The lack of endorsement of measures to keep the air and water pure also has a bad effect on the health of the residents from time to time. Every kind of filth and impurity is left uncovered, either in the courtyards or in the streets, or they throw it into the water, so that both the air and the water are poisoned. The Kalmyks play a particularly active part in this. They are known for their unusual slovenliness, and are settled both in the town and on the outskirts along the Almatinka river.

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132 The prevailing winds are the northwest, from Lake Balkhash, and the east wind, which blows in the spring. The former carries with it the sand, picked up from the dry and sandy Bet Pak Dala steppe and brings rain clouds.

Apples ripen at the beginning of August in Vernyy and apricots in the second half of June, while rye and wheat ripen in July.

The mean temperature of Vernyy, as determined by Golubev in 1861 is 7° centigrade. The city of Marseilles, which is situated on almost the same latitude as Vernyy, has a median annual temperature of 14.1° centigrade so that plums, peaches and tomatoes will grow there, but not at Vernyy. Yet vineyards grow here with some success.